Press release

April showers break dry spell

30 April 2002

Continuous days of dry weather for much of the month may have led people to think this April was a record-breaker, but Met Office statistics reveal it wasn't.

There was no significant rainfall (less than 0.2 mm) over south-east England between 21 March and 16 April. Among the driest areas were Milton Keynes, Heathrow and Woburn.

However, although the month was the sunniest in England and Wales since 1990, with an average of almost seven hours of sunshine a day, it ended with a very wet spell. Up to 29 April there were 43 mm of rain in England and Wales, compared to the April average of 59 mm. The driest April on record was in 1938, when there were 7 mm.

View the British Isles rainfall radar animation

For further information:
Met Office Press Office +44 (0)1392 886655

Met Office Customer Centre 0870 900 0100
If you're outside the UK +44 (0)1392 885680

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